

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00

COME-00 AGR-05 OES-03 SR-02 ORM-01 /098 W

----- 116302

R 100831Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2541

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0048

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR PFOR ET SO

SUBJECT: SOMALI EFFORTS TO REDUCE DROUGHT-RELATED BORDER
PROBLEMS

REFERENCE: ADDIS ABABA 0285

1. SUMMARY: WE CONCUR WITH EMBASSY ADDIS THAT WOME
OF SOMALI CHARGE'S FIGURES ARE HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE,
AND WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE GSDR VIEWS THIS AS GOOD
MOMENT TO RESOLVE BASIC OGADEN PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

2. GSDR REPRESENTATIVES HAVE SPOKEN TO US ABOUT "MANY"
TRUCKS BEING IMPOUNDED BY ETHIOPIANS, WITH IMPLICATION
FIGURE IS MORE LIKE 40 THAN 400. CAMP POPULATION IS
ESTIMATED BY GSDR TO REACH 200,000 BY APRIL 1. IF
RAINS DO NOT RPT NOT COME, GSDR ESTIMATES 700,000
TO 1,000,000 WILL BE "AFFECTED" (BUT NOT NECESSARILY
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IN CAMPS) BY SEPTEMEBER, WHEN NEXT, MAJOR HARVEST DUR.

IF THAT SHOULD FAIL, SITUATION WILL INDEED BE SERIOUS,
BUT WE HAVE HAD NO RPT NO INDICATION GSDR EXPECTS
AS MANY AS 2 MILLION (2/3 OF ENTIRE POPULATION) WOULD
BE IN CAMPS IN SUCH EVENT.

AENQ WE CONCUR WITH EMBASSY ADDIS THAT FIVE-YEAR MORA-
TORIUM ON SOMALI CLAIMS TO OGADEN IS NOT RPT NOT IN
CARDS. HOWEVER, CURRENT DROUGHT SITUATION AND CONCEN-
TRATION OF SOMALI RESOURCES ON MEETING IT IS IMPORTANT
ADDITIONAL FACTOR WORKING AGAINST SOMALI MILITARY ACTION
AGAINST ETHIOPIA. WE BELIEVE CURRENT SOMALI EFFORTS
COOPERATE WITH ETHIOPIA ON DROUGHT RELIEF IN OGADEN
SPRING PRINCIPALLY FROM DESIRE: (1) SHOW SOMALIS OF
OGADEN THAT IT IS GSDR WHICH REALLY CARES ABOUT THEIR
WELFARE; AND (2) BY GIVING ASSISTANCE ON SPOT, TO
REDUCE INFLUX INTO POPULATED SOMALI BORDER AREAS SOUTH
OF OGADEN WHICH HAVE SO FAR BEEN ABLE SUPPORT THEIR
ANIMAL AND HUMAN POPULATION WITHOUT REFUGEE CAMPS.

4. GSDR MAY ALSO POSSIBLY WISH SHOW GOOD WILL TOWARD
NEW ETHIOPIAN LEADERS AND KEEIDTENSIONS ALONG BORDER
DOWN, BUT IT IS OUR DISTINCT IMPRESSION SOMALIA IS
NOT RPT NOT AT PRESENT SEEKING MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE
NEGOTIATIONS ON OGADEN. SOMALIS FEEL ETHIOPIAN LEADER-
SHIP IS NOT RPT NOT IN POSITION TO MAKE OR IMPLEMENT
FAR-REACHING DECISION WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED RESOLVE
OGADEN ISSUE TO SOMALI SATISFACTION. FURTHERMORE,
GSDR MAY WELL HOLD OFF IN HOPE OF NORMAL DEVELOPMENTS

WILL WEAKEN ETHIOPIAN STATE STURCTURE TO POINT WHERE
SOMALIS' CHANCES OF ACQUIRING OGADEN WOULD BE
SUBSTANTIALLY BETTER THAN THEY ARE NOW.
KIRK

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